

# The Vegreville District

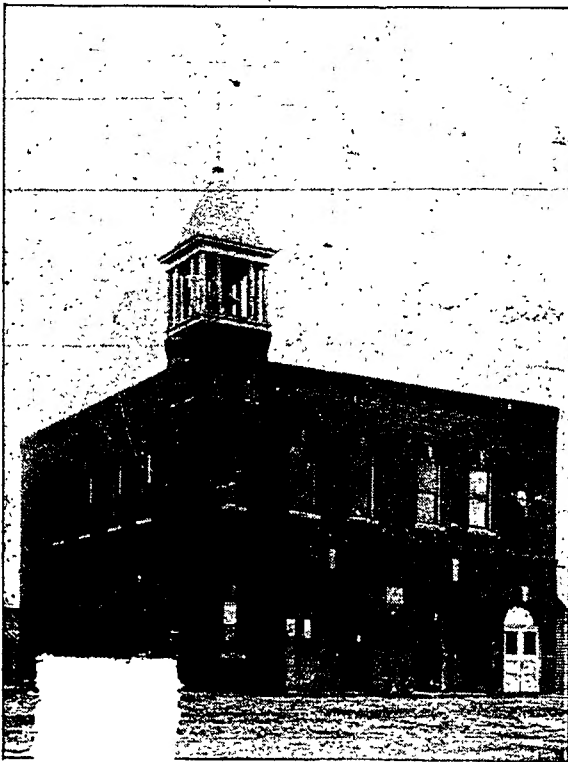
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**Is Unsurpassed.**

For

FERTILITY OF SOIL  
CLEAR BRIGHT CLIMATE  
ABUNDANCE OF FUEL  
PURE WATER  
GOOD ROADS

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VEGREVILLE TOWN AND FIRE HALL

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION WRITE

**Board of Trade**  
Vegreville, Alberta

# FOR YOU !

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A FEW

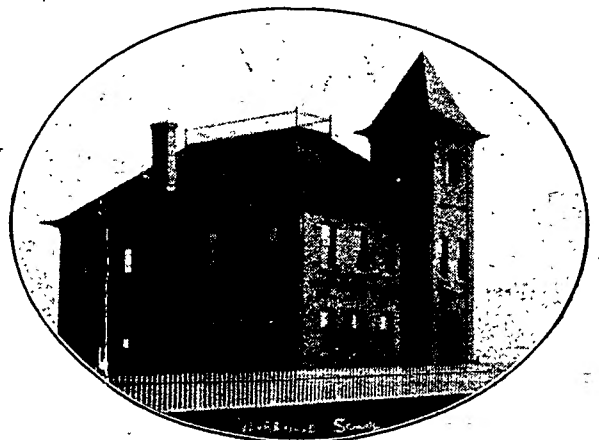
# FACTS

ABOUT THE

## VEGREVILLE DISTRICT

IN CENTRAL ALBERTA

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VEGREVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

ISSUED BY THE VEGREVILLE BOARD OF  
TRADE

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OBSERVER PRINT, VEGREVILLE

### A Typical Instance.

Letter from C. T. McGowan, one of many from successful farmers in the district:

Upon my arrival in Vegreville in the spring of 1904, I admit I had my scruples about being a little too far toward the North Pole for successful agricultural pursuits. But since I have grown six crops and none of them failures and the most of them good, I now know that farming in Alberta and especially the Vermilion Valley is to be a great success, and in the very near future we will be growing more No. 1 hard wheat than the oldest pioneers ever dreamed of.

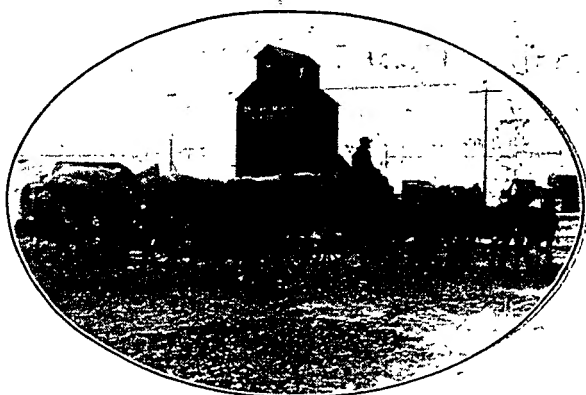
We learned at the Seed Grain Fair last January in Vegreville that we had grown at least two of the last three crops No. 1 hard wheat and our hopes are very bright for better times in wheat growing, for the more wheat grown the better facilities we will get for handling it and thereby obtain more substantial prices. Oats and barley are grown successfully and are old standbys. Vegetables of all kinds do excellently here. Timothy, Brome and Rye Grasses are substantial crops. While Alfalfa has not been tried extensively here I am almost positive it will prove a success, for I have seen a few plants that lived through the past winter in a very exposed location on my farm, and I thereby have courage to seed 25 lbs. this year by way of experiment.

I came here from a warm climate in the Ohio River Valley and I have not found the climate here one hard to endure, but have found it very healthy. I have spent five of the six winters camping in bush work and the coldest spell since coming to Alberta I spent camping in a 10 oz. duck tent and did not lose a day's work on account of the cold.

This section of Alberta has made wonderful advancement in growing good crops of the best kinds of grain and in bringing in better stock. We now have a handsome foundation in pedigreed horses, cattle and hogs throughout the district. No small per cent. of the residents are making handsome profits in raising poultry. The public improvements are keeping abreast with the agricultural pursuits. The Government has built bridges across almost every creek and brook where necessary, and the Local Improvement Districts are building roads throughout the entire country suitable to the demands of the people. There is no doubt that in 20 years from now people coming into this district will look upon the prosperous farms with an envious eye and vainly wish they had cast their lot in the district when land was selling at \$10.00 per acre for the best black loam desired for growing the very best crops.

I have no reason, after six years residence in the district, to think that any industrious man who locates here and stays by his profession attentively for ten years will have any desire to go elsewhere or regrets for stopping in Alberta.

C. T. MCGOWAN,  
Hairy Hill.



ONE OF VEGREVILLE'S FOUR ELEVATORS

## The Vegreville District.

### Its Location.

The Vegreville District lies about 75 miles east of Edmonton, the capital city of the Province of Alberta. It is in the heart of the Vermilion Valley, of world-wide fame as a choice agricultural district. The district is comprised of thousands of acres of the best lands in Central Alberta. The map on the inside of the folder gives an indication of the location and extent of the lands tributary to Vegreville.

### Railway Facilities.

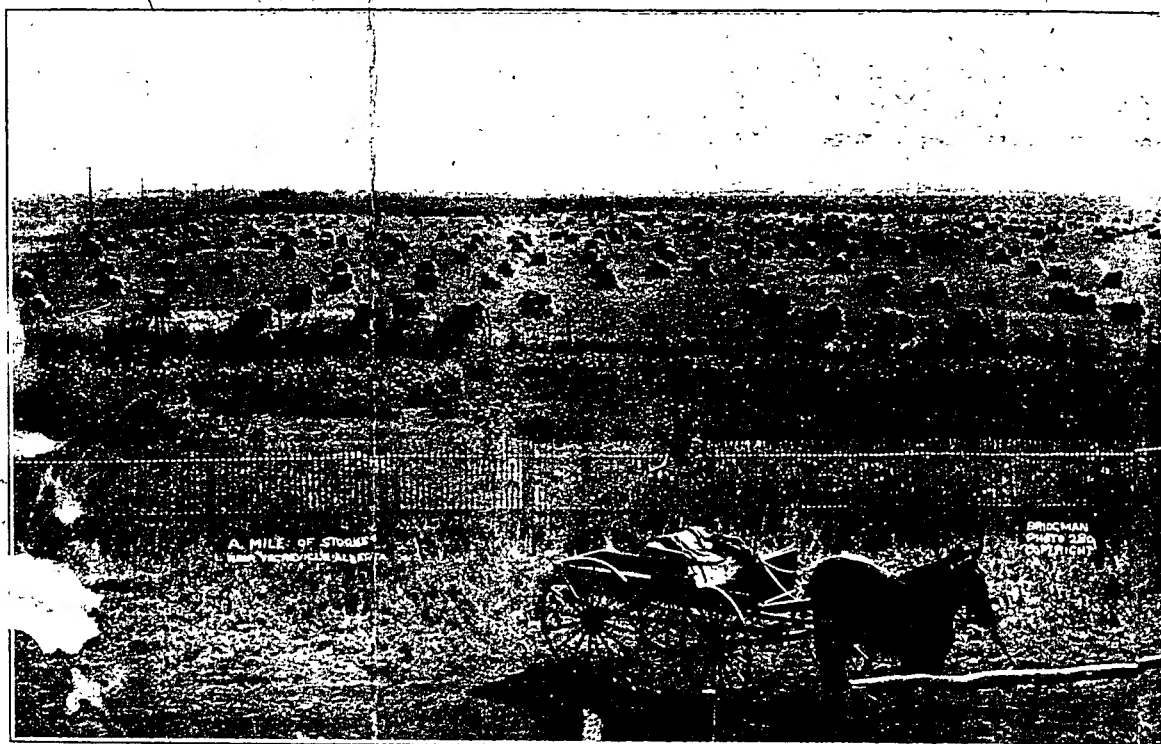
Vegreville is served by the main line (Winnipeg to Edmonton) of the Canadian Northern Railway, with a connecting line running direct from Vegreville to Calgary. The main line of the Grand Trunk Pacific (Transcontinental Railway) passes through the southern portion of the District. Railways are projected in the course of the next three years from Vegreville to Lac La Biche and Cold Lake to the north. The existence of such excellent railway connections and the project of new lines means a great deal for the farmer and the settler, as it affords them much greater opportunity of marketing their products.

### Telegraph and Telephone.

The usual telegraph facilities are afforded by the Canadian Northern Railway Co.'s office at Vegreville. Connection is made when needed to all points in Canada and the United States.

The Long Distance Telephone System, owned and operated by the Provincial Government of Alberta is installed in Vegreville, which is now a first class central office, and communication may be had with all the principal towns and cities in the province and many points in British Columbia. Rural Lines are also installed north and south of the town as indicated on the map. The convenience of telephones to the rural districts is too well known to require comment.

# A MILE of WHEAT at VEGREVILLE



## The Town of Vegreville.

As an example of the progress of Western Canada during recent years, the Town of Vegreville, situated 73 miles east of Edmonton and 753 miles west of Winnipeg, in the heart of the Vermilion Valley in Central Alberta, furnishes a striking illustration. With no attempts being made to "boom" the town; fighting at times against adverse circumstances; the Town of Vegreville in four years has risen from the bald prairie to the pre-eminence of being the most aggressive, prosperous and promising community along the line of the Canadian Northern between Edmonton and Portage la Prairie, Manitoba.

The actual location of the town while not altogether lacking in beauty, is not any too excellent, but this is more than offset by its commanding position as the central town for an immense district. Outside of Edmonton there is no community in Alberta which is the distributing centre for a larger area than Vegreville.

The figures of Vegreville's growth in population may be given briefly thus: October, 1905, population, 0; April, 1906, population, 344 (government census); April, 1907, 700; April, 1908, 1000; present population, about 1500. There is nothing remarkable about these figures but they tell a tale of steady, uninterrupted growth, which is based upon the firm foundation of the gradual development of the district.

Vegreville was incorporated as a town in August 1906, and its municipal affairs are conducted by a Mayor and six Town Councillors elected by the qualified ratepayers.

The town has erected a fire hall and municipal building. Sidewalks line the principal streets. A fire-fighting equipment suitable to the town has been provided and is under charge of a very competent volunteer Fire Brigade. An electric light plant, under private ownership, furnishes light and power.

### Mercantile Establishments.

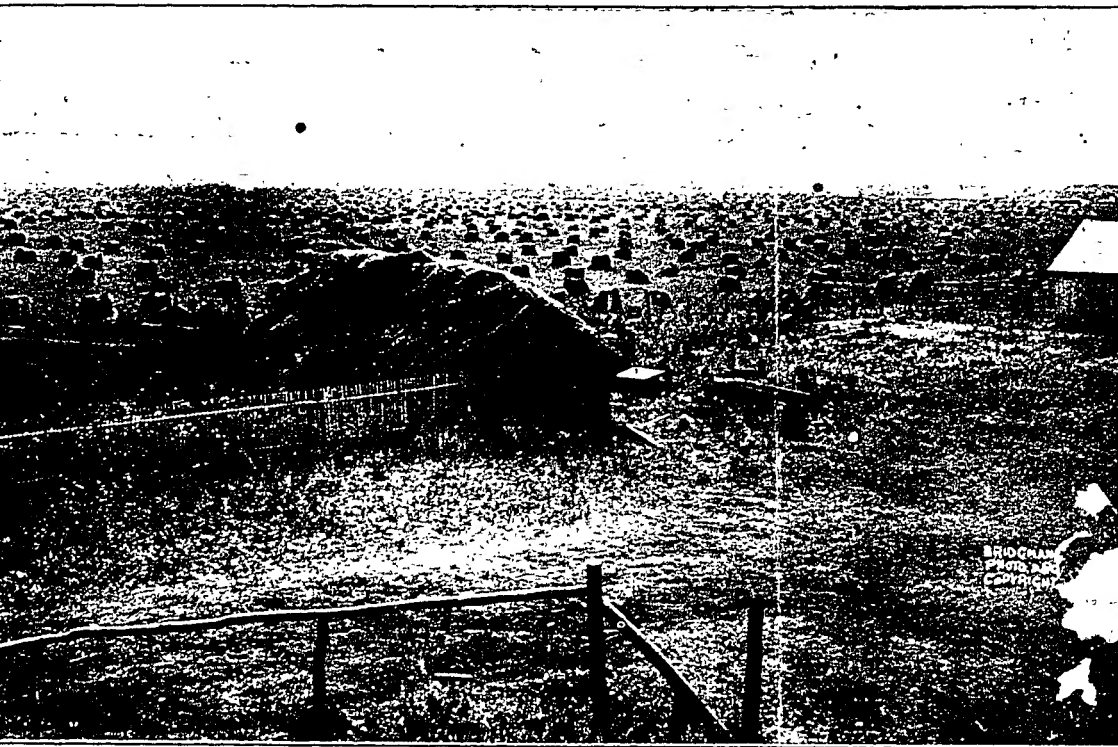
Vegreville is fully supplied with stores conducting various lines of business. Numerous general stores, three hardware stores, fruit and confectionery stores; branches of the Merchants Bank of Canada and the Canadian Bank of Commerce, butcher shops, livery and feed stables, implement agencies, etc., all are represented in the town. Two excellent hotels cater to the needs of the travelling public. Real estate and loan agencies all bearing the highest reputations conduct their particular lines. In brief, the town has practically everything necessary to the needs of an enterprising community.

## VEGREVILLE'S CHIEF INDUSTRIES.

In addition to being the market town for a territory of almost imperial extent, Vegreville is slowly but surely becoming possessed of manufacturing establishments and industries which contribute materially to the growth and solidarity of the town. Among the first of these may be mentioned the Vegreville Flour Mills erected in 1909, and opened for operation early in 1910.

### Vegreville's Flour Mill.

The mill is situated in the centre of the town



## A MILE of W H E A T at VEGREVILLE

alongside the C. N. R. track. It is a building four storeys high, fitted with all the latest improved machinery. It is owned and operated by a thoroughly practical miller. All qualities of flour are made here. A feed grinder is also attached. The advantages of such a mill in the vicinity is at once apparent, as farmers apart from being able to buy flour here, can bring in their own wheat for gristing and at the same time get their other grain ground for feeding stock.

### Machine Shop.

Vegreville has a well equipped machine shop and foundry, fitted with steam power, lathes, drills, etc., capable of doing all kinds of repairs from the smallest 22 rifle to the heaviest plowing outfit.

### Sash and Door Factory.

This enterprise commenced in 1907 has arisen from a humble beginning to a large and flourishing business. Continued additions are being made to the equipment and a large staff of men are given constant employment. The most modern improved machinery is installed and the work turned out is the equal of that furnished in factories in cities of more pretensions.

### The Creamery.

In a district which is so eminently well adapted for mixed farming, a creamery is a very necessary adjunct. The creamery in Vegreville has been in operation now for three years and furnishes a convenient and profitable method for farmers to dispose of their dairy produce. The firm conducting the creamery makes a specialty of handling farm produce such as dairy butter and eggs

### Water and Rainfall.

The Vegreville District is peculiarly favored in possessing an abundance of good pure water. Artesian wells are found throughout the district and the best of water is procurable anywhere at a depth of from 20 to 100 feet. Irrigation of the land is unnecessary. The rainfall in the summer months is amply sufficient to keep the crops flourishing and bring them to early maturity. The provision of nature in this respect requires no improvement by the hand of man.

### Fuel.

A prime necessity for the settler is an abundance of cheap fuel. Here again, the Vegreville district offers exceptional advantages. A certain amount of wood is obtainable in the district but the mainstay of the settler will be coal. This is found in the district. During the past winter coal was delivered in the town at \$5 per ton. At the mines it is obtainable at about \$2 per ton. The fuel question, like that of water, was settled by Providence, long ago.

Where better can you locate than in the Vegreville District. No one living in it now has any doubt about its future. You may have some difficulty in making a choice in what part of Western Canada to locate; your difficulty will be solved at once by visiting the Vegreville district and getting into the centre of things. Make up your mind and get the very best of what is to be had. The Vegreville district offers the safest and best location for you.



HARVESTING IN THE VEGREVILLE DISTRICT

## VEGREVILLE DISTRICT

### For Mixed Farming

The Vegreville District is now recognized as one of the finest localities to be found in Western Canada for mixed farming. The soil throughout the entire district is the famous black loam, very rich in quality and underlaid with a clay subsoil, giving strength to the soil and rendering it practically inexhaustible. It is well watered and particularly wooded. The cultivation of all kinds of vegetables, roots, wild and tame grasses, small fruits, etc., is followed by many with great success. Grains, such as oats, barley and wheat also yield excellent crops. Horses, cattle, sheep and hogs are raised most successfully, the demand for same being far in excess of the supply. The entire district is well served with railroads thus affording the farmers good connection with the extensive markets and packing plants established in Edmonton and elsewhere.

Remember the ultimate value of wheat land decreases from \$25 per acre down, while the same land when used for mixed farming ultimately increases from \$25 to \$150 per acre. The Vegreville district lands are mixed farming lands and the permanency of their value cannot be gainsaid.

### Shipping Facilities.

In a grain growing country, shipping facilities are an important feature. Reference is made elsewhere to the railways in operation throughout the district. Grain elevators or loading platforms are an absolute requirement for the grain grower and at Vegreville there are already three elevators, a farmers' grain warehouse and a loading platform. More will be added as the output of the district increases.

Vegreville has homesteads. For those desirous of going into mixed farming and not in a position to buy land, there are homesteads available in the district and although some distance from the town are within easy reach of good schools, post-offices, churches, etc.





THE PIONEER'S ROAD TO PROSPERITY

## Agricultural Society

Vegreville is the headquarters of the Vermilion Valley and Beaver Lake Agricultural Society which was established in 1905 and has had a most successful career. The Fair Grounds in the vicinity of the town are laid out with Exhibition Hall, Race Track, with Grand Stand, Stabling, Etc. A Fall Fair is held every year in connection with the Society. They also hold a Seed Grain Fair, a fields of standing grain competition, and a Spring Show of pure bred horses and cattle. With the assistance of the Provincial Government valuable prizes are given and the competition is very keen.

The Provincial Government selected Vegreville as a centre for the Short Course School of Agriculture which was well attended by farmers and farmers' sons from all parts of the district, where they received instruction in stock judging, grain growing, poultry raising, etc.



## Schools and Churches.

The social, educational and religious aspects of life form no small part of the settler's view when he is looking for a suitable place in which to establish a home. The majority of the settlers already in the Vegreville district are of Canadian, British or American origin and as a consequence the social side of life is given due prominence. The proximity of good schools where his family can receive a thorough education is a matter of no small importance to the present day farmer. In this respect no district is better endowed than the Vegreville district. There are no less than 53 properly equipped schools within a radius of 25 miles of the town. At Vegreville the High School gives advanced education and the University and Business Colleges of Edmonton are easy of access. For those of the Roman Catholic faith a Separate School exists at Vegreville and connected with it is a Convent where instruction is given girls of any religion who may desire to enter. It will thus be seen that the settlers throughout the entire district have ample facilities for the proper education of their children.

The religious side is also thoroughly looked after by representatives of the different denominations. Where church edifices do not exist, services are held in the school houses at regular intervals. Religious liberty in its broadest sense prevails throughout Western Canada. There is no interference by the state with anyone's religious convictions provided these in their manifestations are not contrary to the law of the land.



